

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:	)	
	)	
Sasutaka ITO	)	Group Art Unit: Unassigned
	)	
Serial No.: Unassigned	)	Examiner: Unassigned
	)	
Filed: July 31, 2001	)	
	)	
For: A CERAMIC HEATER	)	

being a **Continuation** of PCT International Application No. PCT/JP00/00815, filed February 15, 2000

BOX PATENT APPLICATION  
Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Before examining this application, please amend the application as follows:

**IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

Please amend the specification as follows:

Page 1, after the title, insert a new paragraph as follows:

--CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application is a continuation of International Application No.

PCT/JP00/00815, filed February 15, 2000, and claims the priority of Japanese Patent

LAW OFFICES

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON,  
FARABOW, GARRETT,  
& DUNNER, L.L.P.  
1300 I STREET, N. W.  
WASHINGTON, DC 20005  
202-408-4000

Application No. 11-330270, filed November 19, 1999, and Japanese Patent Application No. 11-335641, filed November 26, 1999. --

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please cancel claims 1-10 without prejudice or disclaimer and substitute new claims 11-28 therefor as follows:

**WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:**

11. (New) A ceramic heater, comprising:  
  
a ceramic substrate; and heat generation means disposed within said ceramic substrate, at least part of said heat generation means being disposed on an offset level different from that of others of said heat generation means in the direction of thickness of said ceramic substrate.
12. (New) The ceramic heater according to claim 11, wherein said heat generation means are disposed such that a level of adjoining ones to others is offset in the direction of thickness of said ceramic substrate.
13. (New) The ceramic heater according to claim 11, wherein said heat generation means is flat in cross-section.
14. (New) The ceramic heater according to claim 13, wherein an amount of offset displacement in level of mutually adjacent heat generation means is in a range of 1 to 100  $\mu\text{m}$ .

LAW OFFICES

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON,  
FARABOW, GARRETT,  
& DUNNER, L.L.P.  
1300 I STREET, N. W.  
WASHINGTON, DC 20005  
202-408-4000

15. (New) The ceramic heater according to claim 14, wherein a maximum amount of offset displacement of said heat generation means is in a range of 3 to 500  $\mu\text{m}$ .
16. (New) The ceramic heater according to claim 13, wherein a maximum amount of offset displacement of said heat generation means is in a range of 3 to 500  $\mu\text{m}$ .
17. (New) The ceramic heater according to claim 11, wherein an amount of offset displacement in level of mutually adjacent heat generation means is in a range of 1 to 100  $\mu\text{m}$ .
18. (New) The ceramic heater according to claim 17, wherein a maximum amount of offset displacement of said heat generation means is in a range of 3 to 500  $\mu\text{m}$ .
19. (New) The ceramic heater according to claim 11, wherein a maximum amount of offset displacement of said heat generation means is in a range of 3 to 500  $\mu\text{m}$ .
20. (New) The ceramic heater according to claim 11, wherein said heat generation means comprises a spiral wire body.
21. (New) The ceramic heater according to claim 20, wherein an amount of offset displacement in level of mutually adjacent heat generation is in a range of 1 to 500  $\mu\text{m}$ .
22. (New) The ceramic heater according to claim 21, wherein a maximum amount of offset displacement of said heat generation means is in a range of 5 to 2000  $\mu\text{m}$ .
23. (New) The ceramic heater according to claim 20, wherein a maximum amount of offset displacement of said heat generation means is in a range of 5 to 2000  $\mu\text{m}$ .
24. (New) The ceramic heater according to claim 11, wherein an amount of offset displacement in level of mutually adjacent heat generation means is in a range of 1 to 500  $\mu\text{m}$ .

LAW OFFICES

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON,  
FARABOW, GARRETT,  
& DUNNER, L.L.P.  
1300 I STREET, N. W.  
WASHINGTON, DC 20005  
202-408-4000

25. (New) The ceramic heater according to claim 24, wherein a maximum amount of offset displacement of said heat generation means is in a range of 5 to 2000  $\mu\text{m}$ .
26. (New) The ceramic heater according to claim 11, wherein a maximum amount of offset displacement of said heat generation means is in a range of 5 to 2000  $\mu\text{m}$ .
27. (New) The ceramic heater according to claim 11, wherein electrostatic electrodes are provided on said ceramic substrate.
28. (New) The ceramic heater according to claim 11, wherein a chuck-top conductor layer is provided on a surface of said ceramic substrate.

### REMARKS

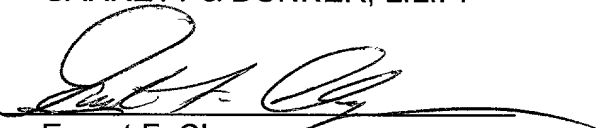
The claims have been amended to eliminate improper multiple dependency and to make the language conform to U.S. practice. Claims 11-28 are pending in this application. No new matter has been added.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Preliminary Amendment, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,  
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

By:

  
Ernest F. Chapman  
Reg. No. 25,961

Dated: July 31, 2001

LAW OFFICES

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON,  
FARABOW, GARRETT,  
& DUNNER, L.L.P.  
1300 I STREET, N. W.  
WASHINGTON, DC 20005  
202-408-4000